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from our Far Eastern bureaus. He found that delays arise there from two principal causes: (1) defects in the teletype signals from Manila, which had not been isolated at the time of his visit and (2) strict interpretation of Army Signals Regulations requiring letter-perfect copy before further relay. There is some prospect of improvement in these two respects. We also have found that the numerous multiple addresses appearing on many of our messages, which go to several recipients in the Far East as well as London and Washington, definitely cause delays in receipt here. To reduce this multiple addressing, we are arranging to have the Far Eastern stations attempt to consolidate addresses. It may be that some material now being filed to you in excess of your needs is contributing to this situation, which a re-statement of your requirements might help to rectify.

As mentioned in my last letter to you, we have materially added to Kyrenia's capacity to cover the Middle East. Kyrenia has increased its weekly hours of Middle East coverage, exclusive of backstepping, from 133 to 195. Your comments on the quality of this coverage would be helpful to FBIS. In connection with the prospective switch of ANA and MENA to teletype, I have just cabled Mrs. Anderson instructions to place an order for two Gress printers for Kyrenia, and I would like to take advantage of your offer of help in procuring the equipment in time to meet this change.

The recent crises in Poland and Hungary have demonstrated the importance of flexibility through utilization of our reserve language capabilities in the emergency monitoring of Hungarian Regional stations from Vienna and the supplemental monitoring of Poland and Hungary from Kyrenia. I suggest that FBIS and NSC jointly maintain a language capability inventory which could be kept current and which, I believe, would facilitate prompt arrangements to meet spot requirements for emergency coverage.

[redacted] the new Assistant Chief Engineer at Kyrenia, are both stopped in Vienna. As you may know, our Austrian Bureau is faced with a local relocation problem. I have asked them to survey proposed sites in the vicinity of Vienna, and also to examine the present antenna system and technical installation with a view to improving our monitoring. They also will prepare the Bureau to monitor at least the sound transmissions of the new Bratislava television station. Vienna's capability for backstepping and recording for NSC should improve after their visit. We shall not allow the press scrutiny operation to cause us to lose sight of Vienna's radio monitoring function.

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At the time of the meeting I will be able to do no more than give you a brief interim report on our African survey. In general, Majorca offers the best site from a purely technical standpoint for North African monitoring, but we also found that a division of effort between Tangier and Tripoli or Tunis might also be practicable. None of these locations could adequately cover broadcasts from across the Sahara. As Wilson has no doubt reported to you, the principal West African areas are monitorable from Asara. It is notable that Asara does not offer usable reception of the African continent below approximately 5° South Latitude. We will provide the EBC with a report on the African survey, but will not proceed with definite plans for either North or West Africa until after a more thorough evaluation of the monitoring potential as revealed in Krichel's findings, and consultation with our consumers concerning their need for this coverage.

On EBC services I shall have very few points to raise. I should, however, like to see whether there is any possible way of eliminating some of the delays in the processing of Stockholm material which our people find very valuable. I know that this is an old question, and there just may be no solution.

Also, we might perhaps find time to work out arrangements whereby FBIS would automatically be notified by the EBC when coverage of any of its Satellite stations drops by, say, 25 percent, due to poor reception, in order that we could make better arrangements to record or cover the unintelligible programs until such time as reception conditions at Caversham return to normal. This would be particularly helpful in enabling the Austrian Bureau to plan its backstopping support.

I am awaiting your note on the points you will wish to raise and am looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you and my other EBC friends.

Sincerely,

Chief, FBIS

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cc: AD/O
Chief, London Bureau, FBIS

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